the region, but to the National Economy as a whole.

Obsolete Highway Building Technology in the Country

2545. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing highway building technology in the country is atleast half a century behind the latest know how;

(b) whether there is an urgent need to adopt modern technology for the construction of highways; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is need for modernisation and continuous improvement in the technology for construction of highways. Modernisation is a gradual process and the Ministry is continuously making efforts to bring about improvements. These include; revision of construction specification; pre-qualification of contractors; mandatory use of required machinery; upgrading technology of indigenous equipment; import of limited modern/ spohisticated equipment, etc.

Hoisting of Pak Flags in Kashmir Valley

2546. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the militants in Kashmir valley hoisted Pak flags and burnt the tricolour on 14th August, 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have failed to curb the activities of militants in the Valley;

(d) if so, the number of militants arrested who burnt the tricolour and hoisted Pak flag; and

(e) what further action the Central Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e) Some clandestine hoisting of Pakistan flags and burning of Indian National flags have been reported in Srinagar and interior parts of the Valley. Miscreants fled away on noticing appreach of the security forces.

Government has taken a number of steps to curb and control secessionism which include among others deployment of more para military forces in sensitive areas beating-up of the intelligence set- up, etc.

News-item captioned 'Fresh instructions to Terrorists from Pak

2547. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Fresh instructions to terrorists from Pak' which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 27th June, 1990;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government is fully alive to the situation and appropriate action is being taken to thwart the designs of terrorists and instil confidence among the villagers.